



BIOGRAPHY



UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

COLONEL BLAINE D. HOLT

Col. Blaine D. Holt is the Commander, 376th Air Expeditionary Wing, Transit Center at Manas, Kyrgyz Republic. The Transit Center at Manas has approximately 1,100 military personnel from the United States, Spain and France, as well as 750 U.S. and host-nation contractor personnel performing day-to-day operations at the premier air mobility hub supporting military operations in Afghanistan. The wing's around-the-clock missions include aerial refueling, airlift and airdrop, aeromedical evacuation, and support for coalition personnel and cargo transiting in and out of Afghanistan.

Colonel Holt graduated from the University of Georgia in 1988. There he was commissioned and designated a Distinguished Graduate of the University of Georgia's Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps. He has served as Operations Officer, 17th Airlift Squadron, and Chief, Joint Requirements, Directorate of Operations, United States European Command. Colonel Holt has held command positions to include the 16th Airlift Squadron and 817th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron.



Colonel Holt is a command pilot with more than 3,700 flying hours in a variety of aircraft. He was selected to the C-17A Initial Cadre, completing the tour as a C-17A Lead Airdrop Examiner Pilot. He is certified as a military linguist and maintains fluency in Dutch. His dissertation, written and defended in Dutch, was awarded a "with distinction" honor at the Royal Superior College of Defense in Brussels. In 2006, he partnered with a fellow C-17A squadron commander to develop, write, and successfully staff a revolutionary new strategy in the combat employment of C-17A forces.

Prior to assuming command of the 376th AEW, Colonel Holt served as the vice commander of the 92nd Air Refueling Wing at Fairchild Air Force Base, Wash.

EDUCATION

- 1988 Bachelor's degree, University of Georgia, Athens, Ga.
- 1995 Squadron Officer School, Maxwell AFB, Ala.
- 1996 Master of the Arts degree, George Washington University, Washington, D.C.
- 2001 "D'état-Major" of the Royal Superior College of Defense, Brussels, Belgium
- 2002 Joint Forces Staff College, National Defense University, Norfolk, Va.
- 2008 Master of Strategic Studies, Air War College, Maxwell AFB, Ala.

ASSIGNMENTS

1. March 1989 – March 1990, student, Undergraduate Pilot Training, Reese AFB, Texas
2. March 1990 – December 1992, T-38A Instructor Pilot, Reese AFB, Texas

3. December 1992 – April 1995, C-141B aircraft commander, McGuire AFB, N.J.
4. April 1995 – August 1999, C-17A Initial Cadre, evaluator aircraft commander, Charleston AFB, S.C.
5. August 1999 – April 2000, student, Defense Language Institute, Washington, D.C.
6. April 2000 – June 2001, student, Royal Superior College of Defense, Brussels, Belgium
7. June 2001 – May 2003, Chief, Requirements Section, ECJ37, United States European Command, Stuttgart-Vaihingen, Germany
8. October 2003 – June 2004, Director of Operations, 17th Airlift Squadron, Charleston AFB, S.C.
9. June 2004 – June 2006, Commander, 16th Airlift Squadron, Charleston AFB, S.C.
10. June 2006 – July 2006, Deputy Commander, 437th Operations Group, Charleston AFB, S.C.
11. July 2006 – July 2007, Deputy Commander, 19th Air Refueling Group, Robins AFB, Ga.
12. July 2007 – June 2008, student, Air War College, Maxwell AFB, Ala.
13. June 2008 – June 2009, Vice Commander, 92nd Air Refueling Wing, Fairchild AFB, Wash.
14. June 2009 – present, Commander, 376th Air Expeditionary Wing, Transit Center at Manas, Kyrgyz Republic

FLIGHT INFORMATION

Rating: Command Pilot

Flight Hours: More than 3,700

Combat Hours: More than 150

Aircraft Flown: T-37, T-38A, F-16C, C-141B, C-17A, and KC-135R

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Defense Meritorious Service Medal

Meritorious Service Medal (four oak leaf clusters)

Air Medal

Joint Service Commendation Medal

Air Force Commendation Medal with one oak leaf cluster

Joint Service Achievement Medal

Air Force Achievement Medal with one oak leaf cluster

Joint Meritorious Unit Award

Meritorious Unit Award

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with Valor Device and six oak leaf clusters

Combat Readiness Medal with five oak leaf clusters

National Defense Service Medal with one bronze star

Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal with two bronze stars

Southwest Asia Service Medal with one bronze star

Kosovo Campaign Medal

Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal

Global War on Terrorism Service Medal

Air Force Expeditionary Service Ribbon with Gold Border

Air Force Expeditionary Service Ribbon with one oak leaf cluster

NATO Medal

Kuwait Liberation Medal (Government of Kuwait)

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION

Second Lieutenant June 11, 1988

First Lieutenant Oct. 22, 1990

Captain Oct. 22, 1992

Major July 1, 1999

Lieutenant Colonel March 1, 2002

Colonel Aug. 1, 2007

(Current as of July 2009)